

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself,

Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1783. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to provide for country of origin labeling for dairy products; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, all across the country, family dairy farms are in dire straits. In Minnesota alone, 200 dairy farms have closed this year. There is no single cause for this crisis. Family dairy farmers are confronting an unprecedented global recession, consolidation in the market, high feed prices, and unpredictable price swings—all at the same time.

Since arriving in Washington, I have been proud to work with my dairy State colleagues in order to give our family farmers the tools they need to weather this storm. In July, Senators from the midwest, the northeast, and the southwest worked together with Secretary Vilsack to raise price supports. Just last week we provided the Department of Agriculture with another \$350 million for price supports in the annual agriculture spending bill. Unfortunately, raising price supports alone won't calm the economic storm.

Just as there is no single cause for this, there is no single solution. Our family farmers need multiple tools in their shed. Today, I am introducing a bill with Senator FEINGOLD and Senator BROWN to give our family farmers another tool.

The Dairy Country Of Origin Labeling Act, or Dairy COOL, is really pretty simple—it would extend mandatory country of origin labeling to dairy products. The current country of origin labeling law, which went into effect last year, applies to meats, produce, and nuts, but it doesn't include dairy products. Our bill would simply add dairy products—such as milk, ice cream and cheese—to the list.

Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ohio dairy farmers, as well as family farmers across the Nation, have the right to distinguish their products from imported products. As families do their weekly grocery shopping, they should have the option of putting milk, cheese, and ice cream from our own family farms into their cart. It is more than “from farm to table”—it's really “from one family to another.”

Families are what this is about. Hardly a week goes by where you don't hear another story of contaminated food and toys coming in from foreign shores. Labeling our dairy products lets parents make smarter choices at the grocery store.

This bill isn't a silver bullet, but it does give family farms another tool that will help them weather the current storm, grow a little stronger, and keep our families a little safer.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1783

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Dairy COOL Act of 2009”.

SEC. 2. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 281 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1638) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (x), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in clause (xi), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(xii) dairy products.”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “(other than clause (xii) of that subparagraph)” after “subparagraph (A)”;

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (9) as paragraphs (4) through (10), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) DAIRY PRODUCT.—The term ‘dairy product’ means—

“(A) fluid milk;

“(B) cheese, including cottage cheese and cream cheese;

“(C) yogurt;

“(D) ice cream;

“(E) butter; and

“(F) any other dairy product.”.

(b) NOTICE OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.—Section 282(a) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1638a(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) DESIGNATION OF COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A retailer of a covered commodity that is a dairy product shall designate the origin of the covered commodity as—

“(i) each country in which or from the 1 or more dairy ingredients or dairy components of the covered commodity were produced, originated, or sourced; and

“(ii) each country in which the covered commodity was processed.

“(B) STATE, REGION, LOCALITY OF THE UNITED STATES.—With respect to a covered commodity that is a dairy product produced exclusively in the United States, designation by a retailer of the State, region, or locality of the United States where the covered commodity was produced shall be sufficient to identify the United States as the country of origin.”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 14, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Examining the State of the Banking Industry.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during

the session of the Senate, on October 14, at 10 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on October 14, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on October 14, 2009, at 10 a.m. in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Prohibiting Price Fixing and Other Anticompetitive Conduct in the Health Insurance Industry.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING AND THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging and the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 14, 2009, from 2:30 p.m.–5 p.m. in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Shauna Agan and Amber Oldham of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent for Preston Rutledge, Carolyn Coda, Chantal Matin, and Stephen Theulen be granted the privileges of the floor for the duration of the 111th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar Nos. 472 and 473; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table en bloc; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements relating to

the nominations be printed in the RECORD as if read; provided further that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

David Lyle Cargill, Jr., of New Hampshire, to be United States Marshal for the District of New Hampshire for the term of four years.

Timothy J. Heaphy, of Virginia, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia for the term of four years.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate resumes legislative session.

FDR DOCUMENTS ACT

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 172, S. 692.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 692) to provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 692) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 692

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TREATMENT OF OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS RELATING TO FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If any person or entity makes a gift of any property described in subsection (b) to the National Archives and Records Administration, then any claim of the United States to such property shall be treated as having been waived and relinquished on the day before the date of such gift.

(b) PROPERTY DESCRIBED.—Property is described in this subsection if such property—

(1) is a part of the collection of documents, papers, and memorabilia relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt or any member of his family or staff; and

(2) was in the possession of Grace Tully and retained by her at the time of her death.

(c) DATE OF GIFT.—The date of a gift referred to in subsection (a) is any date specified by the donor so long as such date is subsequent to the physical delivery of the property described in subsection (b) to the National Archives and Records Administration.

ALLOWING FUNDING FOR THE INTEROPERABLE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1694, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1694) to allow the funding for the interoperable emergency communications grant program established under the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005 to remain available until expended through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1694) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1694

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PUBLIC SAFETY INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS GRANTS.

(a) Notwithstanding section 3006(a)(2) of the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005 (47 U.S.C. 309 note), sums made available to administer the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Program under section 309(j)(8)(E) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 309(j)(8)(E)) shall remain available until expended, but not beyond September 30, 2012.

(b) The period for performance of any investment approved under the Program as of the date of enactment of this Act shall be extended by one year, but not later than September 30, 2011, except that the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information may extend, on a case-by-case basis, the period of performance for any investment approved under the Program as of that date for a period of not more than 2 years, but not later than September 30, 2012. In making a determination as to whether an extension beyond September 30, 2011, is warranted, the Assistant Secretary should consider the circumstances that gave rise to the need for the extension, the likelihood of completion of performance within the deadline for completion, and such other factors as the Assistant Secretary deems necessary to make the determination.

NATIONAL LEARN AND SERVE CHALLENGE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 46 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 46) recognizing the benefits of service-learning and expressing support for the goals of the National Learn and Serve Challenge.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 46) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 46

Whereas service-learning is a teaching method that enhances academic learning by integrating classroom content with relevant activities aimed at addressing identified needs in a community or school;

Whereas service-learning has been used both in school and community-based settings as a teaching strategy to enhance learning by building on youth experiences, granting youth a voice in learning, and making instructional goals and objectives more relevant to youth;

Whereas service-learning addresses the dropout epidemic in the United States by making education more “hands-on” and relevant, and has been especially effective in addressing the dropout epidemic with respect to disadvantaged youth;

Whereas service-learning is proven to provide the greatest benefits to disadvantaged and at-risk youth by building self-confidence, which often translates into overall academic and personal success;

Whereas service-learning provides not only meaningful experiences, but improves the quantity and quality of interactions between youth and potential mentors in the community;

Whereas service-learning empowers youth as actively engaged learners, citizens, and contributors to the community;

Whereas youth engaged in service-learning provide critical service to the community by addressing a variety of needs in towns, cities, and States, including needs such as tutoring young children, care of the elderly, community nutrition, disaster relief, environmental stewardship, financial education, and public safety;

Whereas far-reaching and diverse research shows that service-learning enhances the academic, career, cognitive, and civic development of students in kindergarten through 12th grade, and students at institutions of higher education;

Whereas service-learning strengthens and increases the number of partnerships among institutions of higher education, local schools, and communities, which strengthens communities and improves academic learning;

Whereas service-learning programs allow a multitude of skilled and enthusiastic college students to serve in the communities surrounding their colleges;

Whereas service-learning programs engage students in actively addressing and solving pressing community issues and strengthen the ability of nonprofit organizations to meet community needs;